



*Parks, Recreation and  
Neighborhood Services*

## **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

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District 1— Robert Levy  
District 3— Kristen O’Kane  
District 5— Blake Balajadia  
District 7— Erik Fong, Vice Chair  
District 9— Rudy Flores  
Citywide— Virginia Thomas

Sergio Jimenez, Chair —District 2  
Barinder Ahluwalia—District 4  
Karl Sveinsson—District 6  
Francis Nguyen—District 8  
Brian Quint—District 10

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### **Draft Minutes** **Wednesday, June 3, 2015** **5:30 p.m.**

#### **I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day**

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- Chair Jimenez called the meeting to order at 5:31pm
- Chair Jimenez amended the agenda to switch the order of items VI. C. and VI. D
- Commissioner Nguyen absent

#### **II. Public Comment**

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(Members of the Public are invited to speak on any item that does not appear on today’s Agenda and that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Commission - Speakers are limited to 2 minutes).

- Kirk Vartan spoke to innovative ideas for land use and a Santa Clara development update.
- Nayhieli Cruz-McLeskey spoke to the Commission about a lot that she would like to see turned into a park.
- Jean Dresden inquired about the process for distributing materials during a meeting.

#### **III. Announcements**

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- Chair Jimenez mentioned the Annual Volunteer Recognition event and Steve Hammack provided additional details.
- Chair Jimenez mentioned the San Jose Parks Foundation’s June 25th event at the Japanese Friendship Garden Tea House.

#### **IV. Consent Calendar**

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- A. Approve the Minutes of May 6, 2015
- B. Approve the Attendance Report
- C. Receive and File Correspondence to Commission
- D. 2014-15 Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) Work Plan

Documents Filed: (1) Minutes of May 6, 2015. (2) Attendance Report for May 6, 2015. (3) Documents received during Public Comment. (4) PRC Work Plan.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Flores, seconded by Commissioner Balajadia and carried unanimously, the Commission minutes were approved, including the minor correction to references of Chair instead of Vice Chair. (10-0-1 Absent: Nguyen)

## **V. Reports**

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- A. **Chair;** None
- B. **Director;** Steve Hammack reported on the following:
- C. **Council and Commission**
  - 1. **Council Liaison;** Rayshelle Edmunds, reported on D10 events.
  - 2. **Senior Citizens Commission;** no member present
  - 3. **Youth Commission;** no member present
- D. **Parks Foundation Update**

Documents Filed: Parks Foundation presentation highlighting the foundation's operations.

Jim Reber, Executive Director, San Jose Parks Foundation provided the Commission Foundation highlights.

Commission discussion ensued.

Parks Foundation, Executive Director, Jim Reber responded to Commissioner questions.

Chair Jimenez opened the item for public testimony.

Public Comments: Randi Kinman spoke in support of the Parks Foundation, sharing a Parks Foundation and school district experience, suggesting partnerships.

## **VI. New & Returning Business**

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### **A. Budget Update**

Documents Filed: No documents submitted

Avi Yotam, Administrative Officer, PRNS, provided the report.

Commission discussion ensued.

Administrative Officer Avi Yotam responded to Commissioner questions.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Quint, seconded by Commissioner Levy, the motion carried unanimously. The Staff Budget Update was accepted. (10-0-1.

Absent: Nguyen)

## **B. Greenprint Work Plan Update**

Documents Filed: (1) Memorandum from Marybeth Harasz and Lauren Schmitt, dated May 19, 2015, recommending acceptance of the status report on the Greenprint Work Plan, and providing additional information. (2) Public Engagement Methods document. (3) Draft Process Schedule dated May 20, 2015. (4) Presentation from MIG, summarizing the Greenprint update.

Marybeth Harasz, Interim Deputy Director introduced the item. Lauren Schmitt and Ryan Mottau of MIG, provided a Greenprint Work Plan history, presented scoping and process updates, future public engagement approaches, sought input from the Commission and left the Commission questions to ponder.

Chair Jimenez opened the item for public comment.

Public Comments: Randi Kinman provided feedback on community outreach and surveys. Marilyn Rodgers provided information specific to CD 10 and offered suggestions for public outreach.

Commission discussion ensued.

MIG representatives Lauren Schmitt and Ryan Mottau responded to Commissioner questions.

Action: On a call for the question, Commissioner Levy moved to accept the report. Commissioner Balajadia seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, the memorandum from Marybeth Harasz and Lauren Schmitt, dated May 19, 2015 was approved accepting the Staff Report. (10-0-1. Absent: Nguyen)

## **D. Development Projects Update**

Documents Filed: (1) Memorandum from Marybeth Harasz, dated May 19, 2015, recommending acceptance of the status report of planning applications submitted to the Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement (PBCE) for projects of 51 or more residential units. (2) Development Project Updates list.

Interim Deputy Director, Marybeth Harasz, presented an update on development projects.

Chair Jimenez opened the item for public comment.

Public Comments: Kirk Vartan inquired about the development projects listing process.

Commission discussion ensued.

Interim Deputy Director, Marybeth Harasz, responded to Commissioner questions.

Action: On a call for the question, Commissioner O’Kane moved to accept the report. Commissioner Quint seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, the memorandum from Marybeth Harasz, dated May 19, 2015, was approved accepting the Staff Report. (10-0-1. Absent: Nguyen)

### C. **Turf Conversion Process and Policy**

Documents Filed: (1) Memorandum from Deputy Director of Parks, Steve Hammack, dated May 19, 2015, recommending approval of the policy for turf conversion at Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) operated properties. (2) PRNS Policy for Turf Conversion, dated May 2015. (3) Photos provided by public speakers. (4) Letter submitted by public speaker.

Deputy Director of Parks, Steve Hammack, introduced the item and shared with the Commission a turf conversion related media clip.

Parks Manager, Nicolle Burnham, presented the draft PRNS Policy for Turf Conversion and presented discussion items from the work group formed to help define the PRNS Policy for Turf Conversion.

Chair Jimenez opened the item for public comment.

Public Comments: Larry Sasscer shared his involvement with the focus group and Martin Fontana Park. Dick Stevens spoke about mulch in Martin Fontana Park. Linda Wilson addressed public information outreach and offered feedback. Mike Kalashian spoke to notification timelines and methods. Randi Kinman provided the Commissioners photos to reinforce concerns expressed. Marilyn Rodgers provided community feedback and suggested a longer notification period. Jean Dresden submitted a letter and expressed her concerns. Roma Dawson spoke to outreach.

Commission discussion ensued.

Parks Manager, Nicolle Burnham, and Deputy Director of Parks, Steve Hammack, responded to Commissioner questions.

Motion: Commissioner Levy moved approval of the memorandum from Deputy Director of Parks, Steve Hammack, dated May 19, 2015, recommending approval of the policy for turf conversion at PRNS operated properties, amending the policy to reflect three additions. (1) Modify the 30 day review period to 60 days. (2) Parks are

selected annually based on analytics reflecting maintenance cost and water usage. (3) The policy comes before the Commission for review in a year. Commissioner Flores seconded the motion. Vice Chair Fong requested a friendly amendment to the motion to include: (1) Measure reduction by something other than per park. (2) Review results quarterly. (3) Define partnerships with volunteer groups. (4) Include Commission and Adopt-A-Park members in outreach.

Commission discussion ensued

Action: On a call for the question, the modified motion carried, the Staff report was accepted and the policy for turf conversion at PRNS operated properties was accepted to include the following: (1) Modify the 30 day review period to 60 days. (2) Parks are selected annually based on analytics reflecting maintenance cost and water usage. (3) The policy comes before the Commission for review in a year. (4) Results are made available quarterly. (5) Define partnerships with volunteer groups in the outreach program. (6) Include Commission and Adopt-A-Park member notification in the outreach program. (9-1-1. Abstentions: Thomas, Absent: Nguyen)

#### **E. 2015 Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) August Retreat**

Documents Filed: No documents submitted

Deputy Director of Parks, Steve Hammack, suggested holding the 2015 PRC retreat on August 5, 2015 at the Happy Hollow Learning Lodge.

Action: Vice Chair Fong moved to accept the report. Commissioner Balajadia seconded the motion. (10-0-1. Absent: Nguyen)

### **VII. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

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[http://www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/cp\\_manual/CPM\\_0\\_15.pdf](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/cp_manual/CPM_0_15.pdf)

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For questions, please contact Teresa Meyer-Calvert at (408) 793-4186.

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